

January 30, 2015



HPAC News

It's another full newsletter!

Here is this week's news...

This issue:

- Parents' Night Out
- Feb 3 HPAC Meeting
- Revised Directory
- Walk & Wheel Champions Needed
- Grade 6 Parents
- Kindness Committee Update
- Kidsbooks for Birthdays
- Save-the-Dates

Highlands Parents' Night Out - Only a Few Tickets Left!

TONIGHT: Friday, January 30 7:00 pm
Pier 7 Restaurant + Bar

Buy your tickets now for tonight's Highlands Parents' Night Out - there are only a handful of tickets still available.

Ticket price includes delicious Pier 7 canapés, a glass of wine or beer, music by Absolute DJ, and some fabulous door prizes. Tickets are \$40 each and are available at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/highlands-parents-night-out-tickets-14674133729>.

Next Week's HPAC Meeting

Tuesday, February 3 7:00 - 8:00 pm
Highlands Library

Complimentary childcare available.

In advance of next week's HPAC meeting, please find the below draft agenda for your information. It is also available on the [HPAC web site](#). We look forward to seeing you at the meeting!

HPAC Draft Meeting Agenda

1. Welcome and Executive Introductions
 2. Approval of December 2, 2014 HPAC meeting minutes
 3. ePact: Olga Woodland
 4. Administration Greeting and Updates
 5. DPAC Update
 6. Recent Event Re-Cap
 7. Natural Playground Update
 8. Awning Update
 9. SRA / WOW Update and Vote
 10. Succession Planning for 2015 / 2016 HPAC Executive
 11. Upcoming Events:
 - Family Bingo Night, February 13
 - Family Movie Night, March 27
 - Spring Fair
 - Talent Show, May 5
 12. Open Discussion
 13. Next PAC Meeting March 3, 2015
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Revised HPAC Directory

TODAY is the deadline to make changes: Friday, January 30

An updated version of the 2014/15 HPAC Directory will be prepared in February.

If you would like to have your contact information included in this revised edition but were NOT included in the earlier version **or** need to update any of your details (contact information, sibling names, etc), please:

- 1) log into hpac.wildapricot.org,
- 2) edit your profile details,
- 3) select either Yes or No to the publication of contact information, and
- 4) save your changes.

(You don't need to do anything if you were included in the earlier version and have no

revisions to make.)

Please update this information by the end of today, **Friday, January 30**. If you have any questions or difficulties, please email HPAC@wildapricot.org.

Walk and Wheel Program Seeking Parent Champions

At the last HPAC meeting we met Carol Sartor, a member of the North Shore Safe Routes Advocates (SRA). Carol has implemented the "WOW" (Walk or Wheel) program at her school, Montroyal, and told us all about the possibilities of such a program here at Highlands.

The program gives each student a scan card, with their first name and a code for the area they live in. This can be scanned on a phone; the data is easily collected. A reward system with prizes lends itself to healthy competition, and we are looking into the possibility of such a program, keeping in mind privacy issues and ease of use. We think this could be a winner, and Carol has let us know of all the success' she has had with students.

The students think it's cool, the parents are encouraged to walk, and there is still the "drive to five" option, where you park and walk a bit. Are you interested? **We need a few parent champions and new parents are encouraged to help get this easy program up and running in the Fall of 2015.**

While the details of the new Walk or Wheel program are being finalized we will continue with our regular bean count and "golden shoe" competition this Spring.

Willing volunteers for either initiative are asked to email Marnie Premont at marnie@premont.com.

Attention Parents of Grade 6 Students!

This is a call for Grade 6 parent volunteers to come together and organize the Grade 7 Graduation Tea. The tradition at Highlands is that the parents of the Grade 6 students organize and host the Tea held immediately following the Grade 7 Farewell Ceremony near the end of June. The Grade 7s, their families and staff members attend the Tea.

There is a file from previous years that has been passed on to the committee to help get things started. We need more parents to help volunteer in order to make the Grade 7 Graduation a success. Allison Adshade has kindly volunteered to help coordinate and get the ball rolling, but we are looking for both general volunteers and for someone (or a partner team) to spearhead this event. If you are interested in being part of this or can help in any small way please email Allison Adshade at allisona@method-consulting.com. Thanks in advance for your help!

Highlands Kindness Committee Update

For those who may have missed this, our Highlands World Kindness Day "Draw Your Kindness Fortune" event was in the North Shore News last month! Here's the link: <http://www.nsnews.com/community/kindness-counts-at-highlands-elementary-1.1686260>.

As of the new year we also now have Kindness Buckets in each classroom, with kindness slips for students to draw and act on each week. The slips say things like "Do 5 different kind things today," "Say something nice to someone," "Be a kind listener" and "Invite a student you don't usually play with to join you at recess." The Kindness Committee is working on further initiatives aimed at fostering kindness in the school community, stay posted for updates.

Kidsbooks - Books for Birthdays (or any other special occasion)

As a gift to the school, Highlands students/families are encouraged to purchase a book off the Library Wish List located at Kidsbooks [in Edgemont](#). This Wish List, created by Highlands Librarian Ms. McGee, includes fiction and non-fiction for all grade levels and books at various price points.

Once purchased, the students can then give the book directly to Ms. McGee who will have labels for the students to put in the book and on which to write their name. The children will be able to "visit" their book when they and their peers visit the library.

Highlands library will receive a credit at Kidsbooks for 15% of all books purchased off the list, (in addition to the 15% discount already provided to the Highlands library and staff).

Save the Date, More Details to Come...

- **Family Bingo Night: Friday, February 13**
- **Family Movie Night: Friday, March 27**
- **Talent Show: Friday, May 5**